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(54) Compounds, vectors and methods for expressing human, cytosolic phospholipase A2.

(57) The invention includes recombinant DNA compounds, vectors and methods useful for expressing an exceptionally rare, human, cytosolic phospholipase A_2 ($cPLA_2$) enzyme. The invention also includes a method for screening compounds to identify inhibitors of $cPLA_2$ which is believed to partake in several disease processes.

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The invention belongs to the general field of molecular biology and includes recombinant DNA compounds, vectors and methods useful for expressing an exceptionally rare, human, cytosolic phospholipase A_2 ($cPLA_2$) enzyme. The invention also includes a method for screening compounds to identify inhibitors of $cPLA_2$.

Before the present invention, there was no facile method for obtaining $cPLA_2$ in substantial quantities. Human $cPLA_2$ and a method of purification is described in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/573,513 (European Patent Application No. 91307746.7, Publication No. 0 476 849). Antibodies reactive with $cPLA_2$ and methods for isolating and identifying $cPLA_2$ are described in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/663,335 (European Patent Application No. 92301620.8, a copy of which is filed herewith, marked X-8390). At best those methods are capable of providing only limited amounts of $cPLA_2$ because of its scarcity in the cytoplasm of cells which naturally contain it. To illustrate the extremely rare nature of $cPLA_2$ and to highlight the problem solved by this invention, it need only be mentioned that less than 100 ugs of $cPLA_2$ exists in all of the cells present in an 80 liter culture of a human monocytic cell line. Thus, the present invention overcomes the difficulties of obtaining relatively large amounts of this rare and important enzyme.

Phospholipase A_2 (PLA_2) is the common name for phosphatide 2-acylhydrolase which catalyzes the hydrolysis of the sn-2 acyl ester bond of phosphoglycerides producing equimolar amounts of lysophospholipids and free fatty acids (Dennis, E. A., The Enzymes Vol. 16, Academic Press, New York,(1983)). Phospholipase A_2 enzymes are found in all living species and form a diverse family of enzymes. Of those studied to date, the vast majority have a molecular weight of approximately 14 kDa, and their amino acid sequences show great homology.

The most abundant and commonly studied PLA2 enzymes are the secreted forms. These enzymes are produced within the cell, packaged into secretory vesicles and later released into the extracellular environment where they aid in the digestion of biological material. In contrast, $cPLA_2$ is found in vanishingly small amounts, remains within the cell and serves in an entirely different capacity than the secreted forms. Thorough investigation of intracellular PLA_2s has been hampered by the extremely low concentration of these enzymes in cells (Vadas and Pruzanski, Lab. Investigation, 55, 4: 391 (1986)).

The ability to modulate receptor mediated $cPLA_2$ activity via specific inhibitors is a desirable goal and may lead to new therapies for the treatment of asthma, ischemia, arthritis, septic shock, and inflammatory diseases of the skin. The inactivation or specific inhibition of $cPLA_2$ activity associated with particular disease states will be of great use to the medical community. To accomplish this goal, $cPLA_2$ presumed to be involved in the pathogenesis of certain diseases must first be identified and isolated. This has been done and was described in an earlier filed U.S. Patent Application mentioned above. The present invention provides genes which encode $cPLA_2$, vectors and host cells which are useful for expressing $cPLA_2$ and methods for expressing $cPLA_2$.

The present invention encompasses $cPLA_2$ genes comprising a recombinant DNA sequence that encodes a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 as well as vectors and host cells that comprise the DNA sequence. Also encompassed in the invention is a method of using a $cPLA_2$ gene comprising transforming a cell with an expression vector comprising a $cPLA_2$-encoding gene. Another embodiment of the invention is a method of using a $cPLA_2$ gene comprising culturing a cell transformed by a $cPLA_2$ expression vector in a suitable growth medium and isolating $cPLA_2$ from said cultured cell. The invention also includes a method of using a $cPLA_2$-encoding gene to screen drugs comprising contacting the isolated $cPLA_2$ enzyme with a compound suspected of being able to inhibit the enzymatic activity of said $cPLA_2$ and determining whether the $cPLA_2$ enzymatic activity has been inhibited by the compound.

Figure 1 is a restriction site and function map of pHDCPF.

Figure 2 is a restriction site and function map of pHDCPFS.

Figure 3 is a restriction site and function map of pECPLA21.

Figure 4 shows the enzymatic activity versus protein content found in transformed and non-transformed E. coli cells. The data unmistakably illustrates that the E. coli cells which were transformed with one of the vectors of the invention express significantly more $cPLA_2$ than the control cells.

Figure 5 shows the results of a transient expression experiment using a 293 cell culture transformed with vector pHDCPFS.

Figures 6 and 7 show the $cPLA_2$ activity of pHDCPFS transformed AV12 hamster cell lines.

Figure 8 shows the $cPLA_2$ activity of a pHDCPFS transformed 293 human kidney cell line.

Figure 9 represents an immunoblot comparing $cPLA_2$ expression in a pECPLA22 transformed E. coli culture (lane 1) with a non-transformed E. coli culture (lane 2) and naturally-occurring $cPLA_2$ isolated from a human monoblastoid cell line (lane 3).

The heart of this invention is the isolated, purified human $cPLA_2$ cDNA which was enzymatically copied from the messenger RNA as found in nature. Its DNA sequence is given in SEQ. ID. NO:1, and the amino acid sequence which it encodes is laid out in SEQ. ID. NO:2. Based on the degeneracy of the genetic code, those skilled in the art will recognize that many other nucleotide sequences of the same length are capable of encoding

the $cPLA_2$ enzyme. All such sequences are also a part of the invention due to information which the natural sequence inherently contains.

The invention as a whole comprises $cPLA_2$-encoding DNA sequences, recombinant DNA vectors, recombinant host cells and methods of use. Each of the above embodiments is limited by the protein sequence encoded by the claimed DNA sequences. However, those skilled in the art will recognize that heterologous proteins often undergo enzymatic digestion when expressed in foreign host cells. For example, it is well known that N-terminal methionine residues, preceding a serine residue, are often removed by certain enzymes in prokaryotic cells and as such are contemplated in this invention. Moreover, the invention is not limited by the illustrations and examples used to help describe the invention.

For purposes of this document, a recombinant DNA vector can also be referred to as simply a vector. Both terms include two types of vectors, cloning and expression vectors. A cloning vector, as those skilled in the art know, is a plasmid capable of replication in an appropriate host cell. An expression vector is a plasmid capable of having a particular protein coding sequence in the plasmid transcribed and translated into a polypeptide. Both vectors preferably contain a selectable marker such as an antibiotic resistance gene which permits only transformed cells to grow in a selective medium.

In one embodiment, the invention provides recombinant DNA cloning vectors containing $cPLA_2$-encoding DNA sequences. Those skilled in the art will readily appreciate the utility of such vectors as a means for obtaining a $cPLA_2$ gene, propagating it, constructing other useful recombinant DNA vectors, and using those vectors for a variety of purposes.

Another embodiment includes recombinant DNA expression vectors useful for obtaining substantial amounts of the heretofore extremely rare $cPLA_2$ enzyme. Given the $cPLA_2$-encoding DNA sequences of the invention, those skilled in the art will be readily able to construct expression vectors using known functional elements. Four typical expression vectors are described below to help illustrate this aspect of the invention. The following vectors are described only for illustrative purposes and are not meant to limit the invention in any way.

Two different strains of E. coli were transformed with four expression vectors, and the resulting recombinant host cells were deposited with the Northern Regional Research Laboratories (NRRL) under the terms of the Budapest Treaty. Each vector has the functional elements necessary for replication in its host cell strain, thus constituting cloning vectors. Two of the deposited vectors also function as prokaryotic expression vectors, and two function as eukaryotic expression vectors. Each vector will be discussed in turn.

Plasmid pECPLA21, NRRL accession number 18774, was used to transform E. coli strain K12 DH5 alpha. The DNA sequence of SEQ. ID. NO:1 is the $cPLA_2$-encoding portion of the vector. The vector also contains an origin of replication sequence, a tetracycline resistance-conferring (tet) sequence, a temperature sensitive repressor (cI857) that regulates an inducible promoter sequence (PL), and a transcription termination sequence, all of E. coli or lambda phage origin. The aforementioned functional elements of the plasmid enable the host cell to replicate numerous copies of the plasmid and, upon induction, to transcribe and translate the $cPLA_2$ gene. Those skilled in the art will of course realize that numerous other sequences having like functions may be substituted for those actually used in pECPLA21.

Plasmid pECPLA22, NRRL accession number 18775, is believed to be identical to pECPLA21. However, since it arose from a different clone, it is possible that it differs from pECPLA21 by a few base pairs, particularly in the splicing regions. Nonetheless, pECPLA22 is functionally indistinguishable from pECPLA21 in that it contains an origin of replication sequence, a tet gene, the cI857 temperature sensitive repressor that regulates the P_L inducible promoter sequence, and a transcription termination sequence as well as DNA SEQ. ID. NO:1. A different strain of E. coli (E. coli K12 x E. coli B hybrid RR1) was transformed with pECPLA22 in hope of gaining expression advantages over the previously discussed transformed strain. To date, both transformed E. coli strains appear equivalent with respect to expression and handling properties.

Two different eukaryotic expression vectors, pHDCPF and pHDCPFS, were constructed around SEQ. ID. NO:1. The vectors are identical except that pHDCPF contains the IS10 bacterial insertion sequence 3′ to SEQ. ID. NO:1.

The IS10 insertion sequence appeared in the 3′ noncoding region of the $cPLA_2$ cDNA, producing a plasmid that appeared to be a more stable form than the form lacking IS10. IS10 is well known (Halling, S.M, and Kleckner, N., Cell, 28, 155 (1982)) and inserts into preferred nine base-pair sites in DNA, two of which appear in the 3′ noncoding region of the $cPLA_2$ gene. Since it was not certain whether IS10 would affect the level of $cPLA_2$ synthesis, the insertion sequence was eliminated along with both nine base-pair sites in the bacterial expression vectors pECPLA21 and pECPLA22. However, IS10 was included in the eukaryotic expression vector pHDCPF.

Both eukaryotic expression vectors were derived from the same precursor, plasmid pHD. As such, the functional elements of pHD will be discussed and will apply equally to both pHDCPF and pHDCPFS.

The pHD vector contains an E. coli origin of replication and an ampicillin resistance-conferring gene (amp). These elements make it possible for plasmid pHD to function as a cloning vector in E. coli. As discussed previously, the skilled artisan knows that many other sequences are capable of conferring the same properties on a given vector and are routinely substituted for one another based on what is appropriate under the circumstances. For example, the present embodiment is not limited to the amp gene as the selectable marker since many other comparable markers are well-known and used in the art. Other antibiotic resistance-conferring genes such as the tetracycline and kanamycin resistance-conferring genes would also be compatible with the present invention.

The vector also contains two other selectable markers which allows the isolation of eukaryotic clones transformed by the vector. The hygromycin resistance gene (hyg) gives those eukaryotic cells transformed by the vector the ability to grow in medium containing hygromycin at concentrations which inhibit the growth of non-transformed cells, approximately 200 to 400 ug/ml. The other selectable marker which can also be used to amplify expression is the murine dihydrofolate reductase (DHRF) gene. This gene is known in the art and enables eukaryotic cells to be selected based on resistance to approximately 0.5 to 130 uM methotrexate.

In the pHD vector, the adenovirus-2 major late promoter (MLP) drives expression of the gene of interest, $cPLA_2$ in this case. Those skilled in the art can readily imagine numerous other eukaryotic promoters that could function in place of MLP. Examples include, but are not limited to, the SV40 early and late promoters, the estrogen-inducible chicken ovalbumin gene promoter, the promoters of the interferon genes, the glucocorticoid-inducible tyrosine aminotransferase gene promoter, the thymidine kinase gene promoter and the adenovirus early promoter.

Preferred $cPLA_2$ cloning vectors of the invention are those which function in E. coli. Preferred prokaryotic $cPLA_2$ vectors are the type which operate as both cloning and expression vectors. More highly preferred prokaryotic $cPLA_2$ vectors are pECPLA21 and pECPLA22. Preferred eukaryotic $cPLA_2$ vectors are those which function as cloning vectors in E. coli and also are able to operate as expression vectors in eukaryotic cells. More preferred eukaryotic $cPLA_2$ vectors have the same properties as the preferred type with the added feature that they function as expression vectors in mammalian cells. More highly preferred eukaryotic $cPLA_2$ vectors are pHDCPF and pHDCPFS and the most highly preferred is pHDCPFS.

An additional embodiment of the invention includes various types of recombinant DNA host cells. For purposes of this document recombinant DNA host cells may be referred to as recombinant host cells or simply host cells. A recombinant host cell is a cell whose genome has been altered by the addition of foreign DNA. The most common type of host cell is one that has been transformed with a vector containing heterologous DNA. Host cells serve two purposes by providing the cellular machinery to replicate the vector and/or express the protein coding regions in the vector.

Preferred host cells of the invention are E. coli cells containing a vector comprising a cPLA2 gene and can serve in both the cloning and expressing capacity. Because the cPLA2 gene was isolated from human cells, a more preferred host cell is a eukaryotic cell transformed by a eukaryotic expression vector comprising a cPLA2-encoding DNA sequence. More highly preferred host cells are mammalian cell lines transformed by a eukaryotic expression vector comprising a cPLA2 gene. The most preferred host cells are the human embryonal kidney cell line 293 transformed by pHDCPF or pHDCPFS and the AV12 hamster cell line transformed by pHDCPF or pHDCPFS. The most highly preferred cPLA2 host cells of the invention are the human embryonal kidney cell line 293 transformed by pHDCPFS and the AV12 hamster cell line transformed by pHDCPFS. Both non-transformed cell lines are a permanent part of the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC).

Yet another embodiment of the invention is a method of using a $cPLA_2$-encoding gene to transform a cell. There is a wide variety of tranformation techniques applicable to both prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells which will not be discussed, because such transformation methods are old in the art.

A further embodiment of the invention consists of a method of using a $cPLA_2$ host cell to express $cPLA_2$. In this embodiment, a host cell, either prokaryotic or eukaryotic, that has been transformed is cultured in an appropriate medium until a substantial cell mass has been obtained. Fermentation of transformed prokaryotes and mass cell culture of transformed eukaryotic cells is old in the art and will not be discussed for that reason.

The second step of this embodiment is the isolation of $cPLA_2$ from the cultured cells. Two methods for purifying $cPLA_2$ from a non-transformed mammalian cell line are described in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/573,513. The following summarizes those methods.

Once grown and harvested, the cultured cells are lysed by nitrogen cavitation in the presence of protease inhibitors. A soluble fraction is prepared from the lysate by ultracentrifugation. The resulting solution of cytosolic proteins contains $cPLA_2$ and is subjected to a series of purification procedures.

The soluble fraction of the cell lysate is run through a series of column chromatography procedures. Anion exchange chromatography is followed by hydrophobic interaction, molecular sizing and finally another hydrophobic interaction technique where the conditions are such that the $cPLA_2$ binds the resin weakly. Each column

is run individually, and the eluate is collected in fractions while monitoring for absorbance at 280 nm. Fractions are assayed for phospholipase A_2 activity, and those fractions with the desired activity are then run over the next column until a homogeneous solution of $cPLA_2$ is obtained.

Immunoaffinity purification using anti-$cPLA_2$ antibodies is an alternative to the series of chromatographic procedures already mentioned. Making antiserum or monoclonal antibodies directed against a purified protein is well known in the art, and skilled artisans readily will be able to prepare anti-$cPLA_2$ antibodies. Preparing an immunoaffinity matrix using such antibodies and isolating $cPLA_2$ using the immunoaffinity matrix is also well within the skill of the art. See Affinity Chromatography Principles & Methods, Pharmacia Fine Chemicals, 1983.

The invention also encompasses a method of using a $cPLA_2$-encoding gene to screen compounds. By using purified, recombinantly or even naturally produced $cPLA_2$, it is possible to test whether a particular compound is able to inhibit or block $cPLA_2$ enzyme activity. By adding the test compound over a wide range of concentrations to the substrate solution described in Example 1 below, it is trivial to determine whether a given compound is able to inhibit or block the enzyme's activity.

The following examples will help describe how the invention is practiced and will illustrate the characteristics of the claimed $cPLA_2$-encoding genes, vectors, host cells, and methods of the invention.

EXAMPLE 1

$cPLA_2$ Enzymatic Activity Assay

The substrate, sonicated liposomes containing 1-palmitoyl-2[^{14}C]arachidonoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphocholine ([^{14}C]PC, 55 mCi/mmol from NEN Research Products) and sn-1,2-dioleoylglycerol (DG, Avanti Polar Lipids, Birmingham, AL) at a molar ratio of 2:1, was prepared as follows. [^{14}C]PC (20 nmol, 1 x 10^6 dpm, 50 uCi/ml in toluene/ethanol) and DG (10 nmol, 100 ug/ml in chloroform) were dried under nitrogen. The lipids were dispersed in 1 ml of 150 mM NaCl, 50 mM Hepes, pH 7.5 (assay buffer) by sonication at 4°C with a Microson probe-sonicator (Heat Systems Ultrasonics) for 4 X 15 seconds, with 45 second intervals. Bovine serum albumin (essentially fatty acid free, from a 100 mg/ml stock in water, Sigma) was added to a final concentration of 4 mg/ml. Samples to be assayed for $cPLA_2$ activity were incubated with 50 ul liposomes (0.5 nmol [^{14}C]PC, 50,000 dpm containing 0.25 nmol of DG) in a total volume of 0.2 ml of assay buffer containing 1 mM $CaC1_2$ and 1 mM 2-ME. Incubations were carried out at 37°C for 15 minutes and terminated by adding 2 ml of Dole's reagent (2-propanol/ heptane/0.5 M sulfuric acid, 40:10:1 containing 10 ug/ml of stearic acid). After mixing, 1.2 ml of heptane and 1 ml of water were added. The mixtures were briefly vortexed and the upper phase transferred to tubes containing 2 ml of heptane and 150 mg of Bio-Sil (Bio-Rad Laboratories) activated at 130°C before use. The tubes were thoroughly vortexed and centrifuged (1000 x g for 5 minutes). The supernatants were decanted into scintillation vials. After addition of 10 ml of a liquid scintillation cocktail (Ready Protein+, Beckman) radioactivity was counted using a Beckman liquid scintillation counter Model LS 7000. High radioactive counts correlate with enzymatic activity.

EXAMPLE 2

Prokaryotic Expression of $cPLA_2$

E. coli K12 DH5 alpha/pECPLA21 and E. coli K12 x E. coli B hybrid RR1/pECPLA22 were deposited at the Northern Regional Research Laboratories (NRRL) under accession numbers NRRL B-18774 and NRRL B-18775 respectively. The deposits were made in accordance with the terms of the Budapest Treaty. Both strains carried closed circular plasmids that contain $cPLA_2$-encoding cDNA, a tetracycline resistance-conferring gene, the temperature sensitive cI857 repressor that regulates the lambda pL promoter and other regulatory elements necessary for transcription and translation in E. coli.

E. coli K12 x E. coli B hybrid RR1/pECPLA22 was grown overnight in Tryptone broth supplemented with 10 ug/ml tetracycline (TY) at 28°C, then diluted 1:10 with the TY broth and agitated for 60 minutes at 28°C. After the initial growth phase, the cells were induced by raising the culture temperature to 42°C for six hours. The induced cells were lysed by treatment with a 1 mg/ml (final concentration in water) lysozyme solution and sonicated six times for 15 seconds, at 45 second intervals. A transformed and a non-transformed cell lysate were prepared and assayed for protein content. The samples were then assayed for $cPLA_2$ activity according to Example 1.

Figure 4 shows the enzymatic activity found in each sample versus its protein content. E. coli cells that did not contain $cPLA_2$-encoding DNA were used as the negative control. The data unmistakably illustrated that the E. coli cells which were transformed with one of the vectors of the invention expressed significantly more $cPLA_2$

than did the control cells.

EXAMPLE 3

Eukaryotic Expression of $cPLA_2$

Transient expression of $cPLA_2$ was achieved in the human embryonal kidney cell line 293. The line is a permanent part of the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) and is available under accession number CRL 1573.

E. coli K12 DH5 alpha/pHDCPF and E. coli K12 DH5 alpha/pHDCPFS were deposited at the Northern Regional Research Laboratories (NRRL) under accession numbers NRRL B-18772 and NRRL B-18773 respectively. The deposits were made in accordance with the terms of the Budapest Treaty. Both strains carried closed circular plasmids containing $cPLA_2$-encoding cDNA, ampicillin and hygromycin resistance-conferring genes, the dihydrofolate reductase gene, the adenovirus major late promoter and other regulatory elements necessary for transcription and translation in eukaryotic cells.

A) Plasmid Isolation:

One half liter of DS broth (12 gm tryptone, 24 gm yeast extract, 4 ml glycerol, 100 ml of 0.17 M KH_2PO_4 + 0.72 M K_2HPO_4 per liter) containing 100 ug/ml ampicillin was inoculated with E. coli K12 DH5 alpha/pHDCPFS cells and incubated in an air shaker at 37°C overnight.

The culture was then removed and centrifuged in a Sorvall GSA rotor (Dupont Co., Instrument Products, Newtown, CT. 06470) at 7500 rpm for 10 minutes at 4°C. The resulting supernatant was discarded, and the cell pellet was resuspended in 14 mls of a solution of 25% sucrose and 50 mM Tris/HCl (Sigma), pH 8.0; the mixture was then transferred to an oakridge tube. Two mls of a 10 mg/ml lysozyme solution and 0.75 ml of 0.5M ethylene diamine tetraacetic acid (EDTA) pH 8.4 were added to the solution, which was then incubated on ice for 15 minutes. 1.5 mls of Triton lytic mix (3% Triton X-100 (Sigma), 0.19M EDTA, 0.15M Tris/HCl pH 8.0) was added to the solution, which was then incubated for 15 minutes. The solution was centrifuged in a Sorvall SS34 rotor (Dupont Co., Instrument products, Newtown, CT 06470) at 20,000 rpm for 45 minutes at 4°. The resulting supernatant containing plasmid DNA was removed and mixed with a solution of 20.55 g CsCl, 0.28 ml of 1M Tris/HCl pH 8.0, and 1.35 mls of a 10 mg/ml ethidium bromide (EtBr) solution. The final volume of the mixture was brought to 27 mls with water. The mixture was centrifuged in two quick-seal tubes (Beckman Cat.#342413) in a Ti 75 rotor (Beckman Instruments, Inc.) at 45,000 rpm for 4 days at 20°C. Plasmid bands were collected separately into two new Quick-seal tubes. 150 ul of EtBr (10 mg/ml) was added into each tube and then the tubes were topped off with a $CsCl/H_2O$ (double distilled, deionized water) solution (density = 1.56 g/ml) and centrifuged in a Ti 75 rotor at 45,000 rpm for 24 hours at 20°C.

The plasmid band was collected and an equal volume of water was added to dilute the CsCl. EtBr was extracted 5 times with between 2 and 3 volumes of 1-butanol. 2.5 volumes of absolute ethanol was added to the extracted solution containing plasmid, which was incubated at room temperature for 5-10 minutes and then centrifuged in a Sovall SS34 rotor at 10,000 rpm for 10 minutes. The DNA pellet was dried and then dissolved in 200 ul of TE solution (1 mM EDTA, 10 mM Tris/HCl pH 8.0).

B) Transfection of Eukaryotic Cell Line 293:

One day prior to transfection, 293 cells were seeded in two, 100 cm^2 culture dishes (Falcon #1005) at a density of $IX10^6$ cells per dish. The cells were seeded and grown in DMEM (Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium; GIBCO, Grand Island, N.Y.) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (Hyclone; Ogden, UT) and 50 mg/ml of gentamycin (GIBCO) in a 5% CO_2, humidified 37°C incubator. Approximately 20 ugs of purified pHDCPF DNA was added to a calcium phosphate transfection buffer (see Wigler et al., P.N.A.S., 76, (1979) in the absence of any carrier DNA. The transfection was allowed to proceed for four hours at 37°C, after which the transfection buffer was replaced with DMEM, supplemented as described above, and the cells were allowed to grow for three days.

C) Cell Lysis:

The transfected cultures were washed once with wash buffer (140 mM NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 2 mM EDTA, 25 mM HEPES, pH 7.4) and were removed from the culture dishes by adding 10 mls of wash buffer followed by scraping. The cells (approximately $IX10^7$) were placed in a conical tube and centrifuged. One ml of wash buffer

plus 1 mM phenylmethane sulfonyl fluoride, 100 uM leupeptin and 100 uM pepstatin A was added to the pellet and the cells were lysed using a probe sonicator (Model W-385, heat Systems Ultrasonics) with a stepped microtip at an output setting of 1. Sonication was repeated six times for 15 seconds at 45 second intervals.

The transfected 293 lysates were then assayed for $cPLA_2$ activity according to Example 1. The results from one such lysate are shown in Figure 5 where $cPLA_2$ activity is plotted against the protein content of the lysate. Untransfected cells, otherwise handled in an identical manner, were used as the negative control. The graph clearly shows that the transfected cells had higher $cPLA_2$ activity than did the negative control. The increased enzymatic activity demonstrates that plasmid pHDCPFS was able to successfully express $cPLA_2$.

EXAMPLE 4

Stable Eukaryotic Expression of $cPLA_2$

Stable expression of $cPLA_2$ was achieved in the human embryonal kidney cell line 293 and in the AV12 hamster cell line. The AV12 cell line is a permanent part of the ATCC and is available under accession number CRL9595, and the 293 cell line is a permanent part of the ATCC and is available under accession number CRL1573. Plasmids containing the $cPLA_2$-encoding gene were prepared according to Example 3 A).

Both mammalian cell lines were transfected with pHDCPFS according to Example 3B) except that the plasmid DNA was first linearized by digestion with restriction enzyme Fsp I and precipitated with ethanol. After transfection, both cell lines were individually seeded into culture plates and grown for three days in DMEM after which the medium was replaced with selective medium (DMEM supplemented as described above plus 200 ug/ml hygromycin) to kill any cells which did not take up the linearized plasmid DNA.

After 5 days, most of the originally seeded cells had spontaneously detached from the culture plates and were removed by the weekly changes of medium (twice weekly for AV12 cells); however, colonies grew from both cell lines. These colonies were transferred to 24-well trays (Costar Inc.) using plastic pipet tips.

The transfected lines were grown and assayed as described in Examples 1 and 3, and the results are shown in Figures 6-8. Figures 6 and 7 show the results of eight transformed AV12 cell lines and figure 8 shows the results of one transformed 293 cell line. The negative controls were the non-transformed cell lines handled in the same fashion. The results clearly show that stable cell lines expressing $cPLA_2$ were obtained by transformation with vectors of the invention. To date, forty-eight transformed AV12 and six transformed 293 cell lines have been assayed, and all expressed $cPLA_2$ above control levels.

EXAMPLE 5.

Western Blot Analysis

Immunological and electrophoretic equivalence between naturally-occurring $cPLA_2$, described in U.S. Patent Application No. 07/573,513, and recombinant $cPLA_2$ produced using one of the DNA sequences of the present invention, was established by western blot analysis. The samples and the procedure used are described below.

Sample 1:

E. coli K12 x E. coli B hybrid RR1/pECPLA22 cells, described in Example 2, were grown to an O.D.600 of 1.0. One ml of cells was centrifuged, and the medium was removed. The pellet was dissolved in 250 uls of loading buffer (0.125 M Tris/HCl, pH 6.8 containing 2% SDS, 30% glycerol, 0.1% Bromophenol Blue (Sigma), 6 M urea, and 10% 2-mercaptoethanol).

Sample 2:

E. coli K12 x E. coli B hybrid RR1 cells which did not contain the $cPLA_2$-encoding plasmid pECPLA22 were grown and handled as stated in Sample 1.

Sample 3:

500 ngs of naturally-occurring $cPLA_2$ isolated from the human monoblastoid cell line U937 as described in U.S. Patent Application No. 07/573,513 were mixed with 30 uls of loading buffer.

All samples were heated at 100°C for five minutes, and 30 uls of each were loaded onto separate lanes

of a 10% SDS polyacrylamide gel (160 x 140 x 1.5 mm). The gel was run at 50 mA until the dye reached the bottom of the gel. The proteins were transferred to a ProBlott™ membrane (Applied Biosystems) using a BioRad Transblot apparatus run in 20 mM CAPS buffer, pH 11 (Sigma, C-2632) at 250 mA for 2 hours. After the proteins were transferred, the filter was removed and washed 3 times for 5 minutes at room temperature in TBST (0.15M NaCl, 0.1% Tween 20, 50 mM Tris/HCl, pH 8.0) on a rocking platform. The blot was then blocked for 3 hours in TBS (0.15M NaCl, 50 mM Tris/HCl, pH 8.0) containing 5% non-fat dried milk (Carnation), then blocked again for 3 hours in TBS + 3% bovine serum albumin. The blot was then washed 3 times for 5 minutes in 100 mls of TBST.

Monoclonal antibodies specific for $cPLA_2$ were described in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/663,335. One of those antibodies (3.1) was used as the primary antibody to probe the blot for $cPLA_2$ in the present example. The primary antibody, at a concentration of 0.5 mg/ml, was diluted 1:570 in TBST plus 0.02% sodium azide. The protein-containing blot was incubated overnight at 4°C in the primary antibody solution and then washed as before.

The blot was then reacted with a secondary antibody by incubating it for 6 hours at room temperature in a solution of immunoaffinity purified rabbit anti-mouse IgG antibody (Jackson ImmunoResearch, Cat. #315-005-045) diluted 1:5000 in TBST. The blot was then washed as before, followed by incubation at 4°C overnight in a 1:500 dilution (TBST) of goat anti-rabbit IgG conjugated to horseradish peroxidase (Pel-freeze, Cat. #721307-1). The blot was washed as before and developed for 60 minutes at room temperature in a solution of 42 mls of 0.1 M phosphate buffer, pH 6; 8 mls of 4-chloronapthol (3 mg/ml in methanol) containing 300 uls of 3% hydrogen peroxide.

The results of the western blot analysis are shown in Figure 9. The stained bands in Samples 1 and 3 demonstrate that the naturally-occuring $cPLA_2$ found in the U937 cell line has the same mobility when run on an SDS gel as the recombinantly produced $cPLA_2$ encoded by one of the claimed DNA sequences of the invention. Sample 2, the negative control, shows that without a vector of the invention, $cPLA_2$ is not expressed.

Sequence Listing

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

(i) APPLICANT: Eli Lilly and Company

(ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: COMPOUNDS, VECTORS AND METHODS FOR EXPRESSING HUMAN CYTOSOLIC PHOSPHOLIPASE A_2

(iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 2

(iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
(A) ADDRESSEE: Mr. C. Mark Hudson
(B) STREET: Erl Wood Manor
(C) CITY: Windlesham
(D) STATE: Surrey
(E(COUNTRY: Grande Bretagne
(E) ZIP: GU20 6PH

(v) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
(A) APPLICATION NUMBER:
(B) FILING DATE:
(C) CLASSIFICATION:

(vi) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:
(A) NAME: Mr. C. Mark Hudson
(B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 307
(C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: X-8477

(vii) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:
(A) TELEPHONE: 0276 78441
(B) TELEFAX: 0276 78306
(C) TELEX: 858177

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 2247 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: double
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(ix) FEATURE:
(A) NAME/KEY: CDS
(B) LOCATION: 1..2247

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

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ATG TCA TTT ATA GAT CCT TAC CAG CAC ATT ATA GTG GAG CAC CAG TAT        48
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 1               5                  10                  15

TCC CAC AAG TTT ACG GTA GTG GTG TTA CGT GCC ACC AAA GTG ACA AAG        96
Ser His Lys Phe Thr Val Val Val Leu Arg Ala Thr Lys Val Thr Lys
            20                  25                  30

GGG GCC TTT GGT GAC ATG CTT GAT ACT CCA GAT CCC TAT GTG GAA CTT       144
Gly Ala Phe Gly Asp Met Leu Asp Thr Pro Asp Pro Tyr Val Glu Leu
        35                  40                  45

TTT ATC TCT ACA ACC CCT GAC AGC AGG AAG AGA ACA AGA CAT TTC AAT       192
Phe Ile Ser Thr Thr Pro Asp Ser Arg Lys Arg Thr Arg His Phe Asn
    50                  55                  60

AAT GAC ATA AAC CCT GTG TGG AAT GAG ACC TTT GAA TTT ATT TTG GAT       240
Asn Asp Ile Asn Pro Val Trp Asn Glu Thr Phe Glu Phe Ile Leu Asp
65                  70                  75                  80

CCT AAT CAG GAA AAT GTT TTG GAG ATT ACG TTA ATG GAT GCC AAT TAT       288
Pro Asn Gln Glu Asn Val Leu Glu Ile Thr Leu Met Asp Ala Asn Tyr
                85                  90                  95

GTC ATG GAT GAA ACT CTA GGG ACA GCA ACA TTT ACT GTA TCT TCT ATG       336
Val Met Asp Glu Thr Leu Gly Thr Ala Thr Phe Thr Val Ser Ser Met
            100                 105                 110
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Lys Val Gly Glu Lys Lys Glu Val Pro Phe Ile Phe Asn Gln Val Thr
        115                 120                 125

GAA ATG GTT CTA GAA ATG TCT CTT GAA GTT TGC TCA TGC CCA GAC CTA        432
Glu Met Val Leu Glu Met Ser Leu Glu Val Cys Ser Cys Pro Asp Leu
    130                 135                 140

CGA TTT AGT ATG GCT CTG TGT GAT CAG GAG AAG ACT TTC AGA CAA CAG        480
Arg Phe Ser Met Ala Leu Cys Asp Gln Glu Lys Thr Phe Arg Gln Gln
145                 150                 155                 160

AGA AAA GAA CAC ATA AGG GAG AGC ATG AAG AAA CTC TTG GGT CCA AAG        528
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                165                 170                 175

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Asn Ser Glu Gly Leu His Ser Ala Arg Asp Val Pro Val Val Ala Ile
            180                 185                 190

TTG GGT TCA GGT GGG GGT TTC CGA GCC ATG GTG GGA TTC TCT GGT GTG        624
Leu Gly Ser Gly Gly Gly Phe Arg Ala Met Val Gly Phe Ser Gly Val
        195                 200                 205

ATG AAG GCA TTA TAC GAA TCA GGA ATT CTG GAT TGT GCT ACC TAC GTT        672
Met Lys Ala Leu Tyr Glu Ser Gly Ile Leu Asp Cys Ala Thr Tyr Val
    210                 215                 220

GCT GGT CTT TCT GGC TCC ACC TGG TAT ATG TCA ACC TTG TAT TCT CAC        720
Ala Gly Leu Ser Gly Ser Thr Trp Tyr Met Ser Thr Leu Tyr Ser His
225                 230                 235                 240

CCT GAT TTT CCA GAG AAA GGG CCA GAG GAG ATT AAT GAA GAA CTA ATG        768
Pro Asp Phe Pro Glu Lys Gly Pro Glu Glu Ile Asn Glu Glu Leu Met
                245                 250                 255

AAA AAT GTT AGC CAC AAT CCC CTT TTA CTT CTC ACA CCA CAG AAA GTT        816
Lys Asn Val Ser His Asn Pro Leu Leu Leu Leu Thr Pro Gln Lys Val
            260                 265                 270

AAA AGA TAT GTT GAG TCT TTA TGG AAG AAG AAA AGC TCT GGA CAA CCT        864
Lys Arg Tyr Val Glu Ser Leu Trp Lys Lys Lys Ser Ser Gly Gln Pro
        275                 280                 285

GTC ACC TTT ACT GAC ATC TTT GGG ATG TTA ATA GGA GAA ACA CTA ATT        912
Val Thr Phe Thr Asp Ile Phe Gly Met Leu Ile Gly Glu Thr Leu Ile
    290                 295                 300
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CAT AAT AGA ATG AAT ACT ACT CTG AGC AGT TTG AAG GAA AAA GTT AAT        960
His Asn Arg Met Asn Thr Thr Leu Ser Ser Leu Lys Glu Lys Val Asn
305                 310                 315                 320

ACT GCA CAA TGC CCT TTA CCT CTT TTC ACC TGT CTT CAT GTC AAA CCT       1008
Thr Ala Gln Cys Pro Leu Pro Leu Phe Thr Cys Leu His Val Lys Pro
                325                 330                 335

GAC GTT TCA GAG CTG ATG TTT GCA GAT TGG GTT GAA TTT AGT CCA TAC       1056
Asp Val Ser Glu Leu Met Phe Ala Asp Trp Val Glu Phe Ser Pro Tyr
            340                 345                 350

GAA ATT GGC ATG GCT AAA TAT GGT ACT TTT ATG GCT CCC GAC TTA TTT       1104
Glu Ile Gly Met Ala Lys Tyr Gly Thr Phe Met Ala Pro Asp Leu Phe
        355                 360                 365

GGA AGC AAA TTT TTT ATG GGA ACA GTC GTT AAG AAG TAT GAA GAA AAC       1152
Gly Ser Lys Phe Phe Met Gly Thr Val Val Lys Lys Tyr Glu Glu Asn
    370                 375                 380

CCC TTG CAT TTC TTA ATG GGT GTC TGG GGC AGT GCC TTT TCC ATA TTG       1200
Pro Leu His Phe Leu Met Gly Val Trp Gly Ser Ala Phe Ser Ile Leu
385                 390                 395                 400

TTC AAC AGA GTT TTG GGC GTT TCT GGT TCA CAA AGC AGA GGC TCC ACA       1248
Phe Asn Arg Val Leu Gly Val Ser Gly Ser Gln Ser Arg Gly Ser Thr
                405                 410                 415

ATG GAG GAA GAA TTA GAA AAT ATT ACC ACA AAG CAT ATT GTG AGT AAT       1296
Met Glu Glu Glu Leu Glu Asn Ile Thr Thr Lys His Ile Val Ser Asn
            420                 425                 430

GAT AGC TCG GAC AGT GAT GAT GAA TCA CAC GAA CCC AAA GGC ACT GAA       1344
Asp Ser Ser Asp Ser Asp Asp Glu Ser His Glu Pro Lys Gly Thr Glu
        435                 440                 445

AAT GAA GAT GCT GGA AGT GAC TAT CAA AGT GAT AAT CAA GCA AGT TGG       1392
Asn Glu Asp Ala Gly Ser Asp Tyr Gln Ser Asp Asn Gln Ala Ser Trp
    450                 455                 460

ATT CAT CGT ATG ATA ATG GCC TTG GTG AGT GAT TCA GCT TTA TTC AAT       1440
Ile His Arg Met Ile Met Ala Leu Val Ser Asp Ser Ala Leu Phe Asn
465                 470                 475                 480

ACC AGA GAA GGA CGT GCT GGG AAG GTA CAC AAC TTC ATG CTG GGC TTG       1488
Thr Arg Glu Gly Arg Ala Gly Lys Val His Asn Phe Met Leu Gly Leu
                485                 490                 495
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Asn Leu Asn Thr Ser Tyr Pro Leu Ser Pro Leu Ser Asp Phe Ala Thr
            500                 505                 510

CAG GAC TCC TTT GAT GAT GAT GAA CTG GAT GCA GCT GTA GCA GAT CCT      1584
Gln Asp Ser Phe Asp Asp Asp Glu Leu Asp Ala Ala Val Ala Asp Pro
        515                 520                 525

GAT GAA TTT GAG CGA ATA TAT GAG CCT CTG GAT GTC AAA AGT AAA AAG      1632
Asp Glu Phe Glu Arg Ile Tyr Glu Pro Leu Asp Val Lys Ser Lys Lys
    530                 535                 540

ATT CAT GTA GTG GAC AGT GGG CTC ACA TTT AAC CTG CCG TAT CCC TTG      1680
Ile His Val Val Asp Ser Gly Leu Thr Phe Asn Leu Pro Tyr Pro Leu
545                 550                 555                 560

ATA CTG AGA CCT CAG AGA GGG GTT GAT CTC ATA ATC TCC TTT GAC TTT      1728
Ile Leu Arg Pro Gln Arg Gly Val Asp Leu Ile Ile Ser Phe Asp Phe
                565                 570                 575

TCT GCA AGG CCA AGT GAC TCT AGT CCT CCG TTC AAG GAA CTT CTA CTT      1776
Ser Ala Arg Pro Ser Asp Ser Ser Pro Pro Phe Lys Glu Leu Leu Leu
            580                 585                 590

GCA GAA AAG TGG GCT AAA ATG AAC AAG CTC CCC TTT CCA AAG ATT GAT      1824
Ala Glu Lys Trp Ala Lys Met Asn Lys Leu Pro Phe Pro Lys Ile Asp
        595                 600                 605

CCT TAT GTG TTT GAT CGG GAA GGG CTG AAG GAG TGC TAT GTC TTT AAA      1872
Pro Tyr Val Phe Asp Arg Glu Gly Leu Lys Glu Cys Tyr Val Phe Lys
    610                 615                 620

CCC AAG AAT CCT GAT ATG GAG AAA GAT TGC CCA ACC ATC ATC CAC TTT      1920
Pro Lys Asn Pro Asp Met Glu Lys Asp Cys Pro Thr Ile Ile His Phe
625                 630                 635                 640

GTT CTG GCC AAC ATC AAC TTC AGA AAG TAC AAG GCT CCA GGT GTT CCA      1968
Val Leu Ala Asn Ile Asn Phe Arg Lys Tyr Lys Ala Pro Gly Val Pro
                645                 650                 655

AGG GAA ACT GAG GAA GAG AAA GAA ATC GCT GAC TTT GAT ATT TTT GAT      2016
Arg Glu Thr Glu Glu Glu Lys Glu Ile Ala Asp Phe Asp Ile Phe Asp
            660                 665                 670

GAC CCA GAA TCA CCA TTT TCA ACC TTC AAT TTT CAA TAT CCA AAT CAA      2064
Asp Pro Glu Ser Pro Phe Ser Thr Phe Asn Phe Gln Tyr Pro Asn Gln
        675                 680                 685
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GCA TTC AAA AGA CTA CAT GAT CTT ATG CAC TTC AAT ACT CTG AAC AAC      2112
Ala Phe Lys Arg Leu His Asp Leu Met His Phe Asn Thr Leu Asn Asn
    690                 695                 700

ATT GAT GTG ATA AAA GAA GCC ATG GTT GAA AGC ATT GAA TAT AGA AGA      2160
Ile Asp Val Ile Lys Glu Ala Met Val Glu Ser Ile Glu Tyr Arg Arg
705                 710                 715                 720

CAG AAT CCA TCT CGT TGC TCT GTT TCC CTT AGT AAT GTT GAG GCA AGA      2208
Gln Asn Pro Ser Arg Cys Ser Val Ser Leu Ser Asn Val Glu Ala Arg
                725                 730                 735

AGA TTT TTC AAC AAG GAG TTT CTA AGT AAA CCC AAA GCA                  2247
Arg Phe Phe Asn Lys Glu Phe Leu Ser Lys Pro Lys Ala
            740                 745
```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 749 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

```
Met Ser Phe Ile Asp Pro Tyr Gln His Ile Ile Val Glu His Gln Tyr
 1               5                  10                  15

Ser His Lys Phe Thr Val Val Val Leu Arg Ala Thr Lys Val Thr Lys
            20                  25                  30

Gly Ala Phe Gly Asp Met Leu Asp Thr Pro Asp Pro Tyr Val Glu Leu
        35                  40                  45

Phe Ile Ser Thr Thr Pro Asp Ser Arg Lys Arg Thr Arg His Phe Asn
    50                  55                  60

Asn Asp Ile Asn Pro Val Trp Asn Glu Thr Phe Glu Phe Ile Leu Asp
65                  70                  75                  80

Pro Asn Gln Glu Asn Val Leu Glu Ile Thr Leu Met Asp Ala Asn Tyr
                85                  90                  95
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Val Met Asp Glu Thr Leu Gly Thr Ala Thr Phe Thr Val Ser Ser Met
100 105 110

Lys Val Gly Glu Lys Lys Glu Val Pro Phe Ile Phe Asn Gln Val Thr
115 120 125

Glu Met Val Leu Glu Met Ser Leu Glu Val Cys Ser Cys Pro Asp Leu
130 135 140

Arg Phe Ser Met Ala Leu Cys Asp Gln Glu Lys Thr Phe Arg Gln Gln
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Arg Lys Glu His Ile Arg Glu Ser Met Lys Lys Leu Leu Gly Pro Lys
165 170 175

Asn Ser Glu Gly Leu His Ser Ala Arg Asp Val Pro Val Val Ala Ile
180 185 190

Leu Gly Ser Gly Gly Gly Phe Arg Ala Met Val Gly Phe Ser Gly Val
195 200 205

Met Lys Ala Leu Tyr Glu Ser Gly Ile Leu Asp Cys Ala Thr Tyr Val
210 215 220

Ala Gly Leu Ser Gly Ser Thr Trp Tyr Met Ser Thr Leu Tyr Ser His
225 230 235 240

Pro Asp Phe Pro Glu Lys Gly Pro Glu Glu Ile Asn Glu Glu Leu Met
245 250 255

Lys Asn Val Ser His Asn Pro Leu Leu Leu Leu Thr Pro Gln Lys Val
260 265 270

Lys Arg Tyr Val Glu Ser Leu Trp Lys Lys Lys Ser Ser Gly Gln Pro
275 280 285

Val Thr Phe Thr Asp Ile Phe Gly Met Leu Ile Gly Glu Thr Leu Ile
290 295 300

His Asn Arg Met Asn Thr Thr Leu Ser Ser Leu Lys Glu Lys Val Asn
305 310 315 320

Thr Ala Gln Cys Pro Leu Pro Leu Phe Thr Cys Leu His Val Lys Pro
325 330 335

Asp Val Ser Glu Leu Met Phe Ala Asp Trp Val Glu Phe Ser Pro Tyr
340 345 350

Glu Ile Gly Met Ala Lys Tyr Gly Thr Phe Met Ala Pro Asp Leu Phe
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Gly Ser Lys Phe Phe Met Gly Thr Val Val Lys Lys Tyr Glu Glu Asn
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Pro Leu His Phe Leu Met Gly Val Trp Gly Ser Ala Phe Ser Ile Leu
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420 425 430

Asp Ser Ser Asp Ser Asp Asp Glu Ser His Glu Pro Lys Gly Thr Glu
435 440 445

Asn Glu Asp Ala Gly Ser Asp Tyr Gln Ser Asp Asn Gln Ala Ser Trp
450 455 460

Ile His Arg Met Ile Met Ala Leu Val Ser Asp Ser Ala Leu Phe Asn
465 470 475 480

Thr Arg Glu Gly Arg Ala Gly Lys Val His Asn Phe Met Leu Gly Leu
485 490 495

Asn Leu Asn Thr Ser Tyr Pro Leu Ser Pro Leu Ser Asp Phe Ala Thr
500 505 510

Gln Asp Ser Phe Asp Asp Asp Glu Leu Asp Ala Ala Val Ala Asp Pro
515 520 525

Asp Glu Phe Glu Arg Ile Tyr Glu Pro Leu Asp Val Lys Ser Lys Lys
530 535 540

Ile His Val Val Asp Ser Gly Leu Thr Phe Asn Leu Pro Tyr Pro Leu
545 550 555 560

Ile Leu Arg Pro Gln Arg Gly Val Asp Leu Ile Ile Ser Phe Asp Phe
565 570 575

```
Ser Ala Arg Pro Ser Asp Ser Ser Pro Pro Phe Lys Glu Leu Leu Leu
            580                 585                 590

Ala Glu Lys Trp Ala Lys Met Asn Lys Leu Pro Phe Pro Lys Ile Asp
        595                 600                 605

Pro Tyr Val Phe Asp Arg Glu Gly Leu Lys Glu Cys Tyr Val Phe Lys
    610                 615                 620

Pro Lys Asn Pro Asp Met Glu Lys Asp Cys Pro Thr Ile Ile His Phe
625                 630                 635                 640

Val Leu Ala Asn Ile Asn Phe Arg Lys Tyr Lys Ala Pro Gly Val Pro
                645                 650                 655

Arg Glu Thr Glu Glu Glu Lys Glu Ile Ala Asp Phe Asp Ile Phe Asp
            660                 665                 670

Asp Pro Glu Ser Pro Phe Ser Thr Phe Asn Phe Gln Tyr Pro Asn Gln
        675                 680                 685

Ala Phe Lys Arg Leu His Asp Leu Met His Phe Asn Thr Leu Asn Asn
    690                 695                 700

Ile Asp Val Ile Lys Glu Ala Met Val Glu Ser Ile Glu Tyr Arg Arg
705                 710                 715                 720

Gln Asn Pro Ser Arg Cys Ser Val Ser Leu Ser Asn Val Glu Ala Arg
                725                 730                 735

Arg Phe Phe Asn Lys Glu Phe Leu Ser Lys Pro Lys Ala
            740                 745
```

Claims

1. A gene which comprises an isolated DNA sequence that encodes a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

2. A gene of Claim 1 wherein said DNA sequence is the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

3. A recombinant DNA vector that is capable of functioning in a host cell which comprises a gene of Claim 1 .

4. A host cell which comprises a recombinant DNA vector of Claim 3.

5. The host cell of Claim 4 that is E. coli K12 DH5 alpha/pECPLA21 which is on deposit with the Northern Regional Reseach Laboratories (NRRL) under accession number 18774.

6. The host cell of Claim 4 that is E. coli K12 x E. coli B hybrid RR1/pECPLA22 which is on deposit with the NRRL under accession number 18775.

7. The host cell of Claim 4 that is E. coli K12 DH5 alpha/pHDCPF and is on deposit with the NRRL under accession number 18772.

8. The host cell of Claim 4 that is E. coli K12 DH5 alpha/pHDCPFS and is on deposit with the NRRL under accession number 18773.

9. A method of using a host cell of Claim 4 to screen drugs which comprises;
   a) culturing said host cell in a suitable growth medium such that the protein set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 (cytosolic phospholipase A_2) is produced;
   b) isolating said protein;
   c) contacting said isolated protein with a compound suspected of being able to inhibit the enzymatic activity of said protein, and;
   d) determining whether the enzymatic activity of said protein has been inhibited by the compound.

Claims for the following Contracting State : ES

1. A process for preparing cytosolic phospholipase A_2 ($cPLA_2$) which comprises culturing a host cell that contains a recombinant DNA vector that contains a gene encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 ($cPLA_2$).

2. A process according to Claim 1 for preparing $cPLA_2$ which comprises culturing a host cell that contains a recombinant DNA vector that contains the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

3. A process for preparing a recombinant DNA vector that is capable of encoding the expression of $cPLA_2$ which comprises ligating a DNA sequence that encodes the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 to a suitable expression vector.

4. A process for preparing a $cPLA_2$-encoding host cell which comprises transfecting a host cell with a recombinant DNA vector that contains the DNA sequence of SEQ: ID NO:2.

5. A process for preparing E. coli K12 DH5 alpha/pECPLA21 that is on deposit with the Northern Regional Reseach Laboratories (NRRL) under accession number 18774 which comprises transfecting an E. coli K12 DH5 alpha cell with a recombinant DNA vector that contains the DNA sequence of SEQ: ID NO:2.

6. A process for preparing E. coli K12 x E. coli B hybrid RR1/pECPLA22 that is on deposit with the NRRL under accession number 18775 which comprises transfecting an E. coli K12 x E. coli B hybrid RR1 cell with a recombinant DNA vector that contains the DNA sequence of SEQ: ID NO:2.

7. A process for preparing E. coli K12 DH5 alpha/pHDCPF that is on deposit with the NRRL under accession number 18772 which comprises transfecting an E. coli K12 DH5 alpha cell with a recombinant DNA vector that contains the DNA sequence of SEQ: ID NO:2.

8. A process for preparing E. coli K12 DH5 alpha/pHDCPFS that is on deposit with the NRRL under accession number 18773 which comprises transfecting an E. coli K12 DH5 alpha cell with a recombinant DNA vector that contains the DNA sequence of SEQ: ID NO:2.

9. A method of using a $cPLA_2$-expressing host cell to screen drugs which comprises;
   a) culturing said host cell in a suitable growth medium such that the protein of SEQ ID NO:2 ($cPLA_2$) is produced;
   b) isolating said protein;
   c) contacting said isolated protein with a compound suspected of being able to inhibit the enzymatic activity of said protein, and;
   d) determining whether the enzymatic activity of said protein has been inhibited by the compound.

Claims for the following Contracting State : GR

1. A process for preparing cytosolic phospholipase A_2 ($cPLA_2$) which comprises culturing a host cell that contains a recombinant DNA vector that contains a gene encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 ($cPLA_2$).

2. A gene which comprises an isolated DNA sequence that encodes a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

3. A gene of Claim 2 wherein said DNA sequence is the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

4. A recombinant DNA vector that is capable of functioning in a host cell which comprises a gene of Claim 2 .

5. A host cell which comprises a recombinant DNA vector of Claim 4.

6. The host cell of Claim 5 that is E. coli K12 DH5 alpha/pECPLA21 which is on deposit with the Northern Regional Reseach Laboratories (NRRL) under accession number 18774.

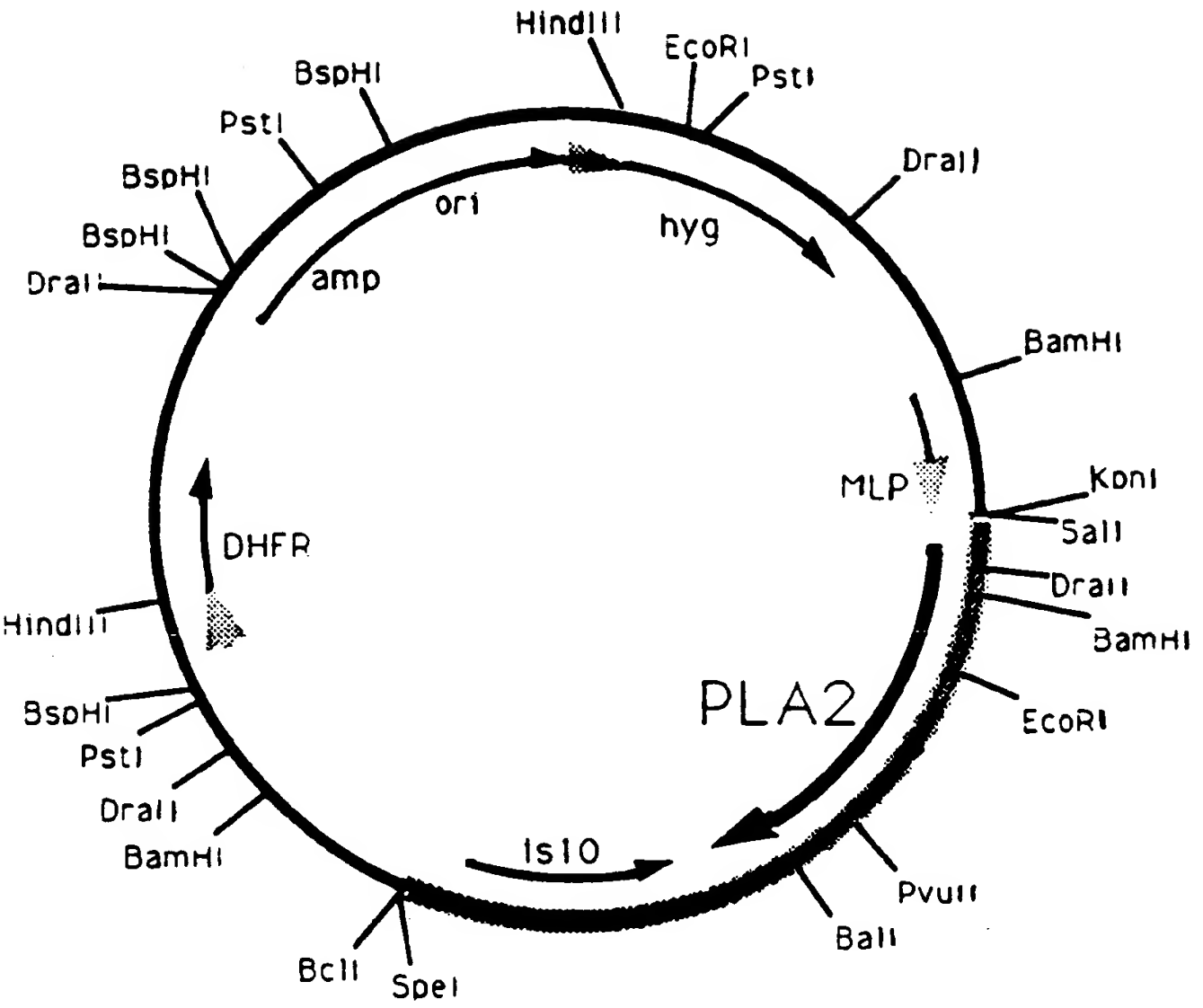
7. The host cell of Claim 5 that is E. coli K12 x E. coli B hybrid RR1/pECPLA22 which is on deposit with the NRRL under accession number 18775.

8. The host cell of Claim 5 that is E. coli K12 DH5 alpha/pHDCPF and is on deposit with the NRRL under accession number 18772.

9. The host cell of Claim 5 that is E. coli K12 DH5 alpha/pHDCPFS and is on deposit with the NRRL under accession number 18773.

10. A method of using a $cPLA_2$-encoding host cell to screen drugs which comprises;
a) culturing said host cell in a suitable growth medium such that the protein of SEQ ID NO:2 ($cPLA_2$) is produced;
b) isolating said protein;
c) contacting said isolated protein with a compound suspected of being able to inhibit the enzymatic activity of said protein, and;
d) determining whether the enzymatic activity of said protein has been inhibited by the compound.

FIG. 1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EcoRI
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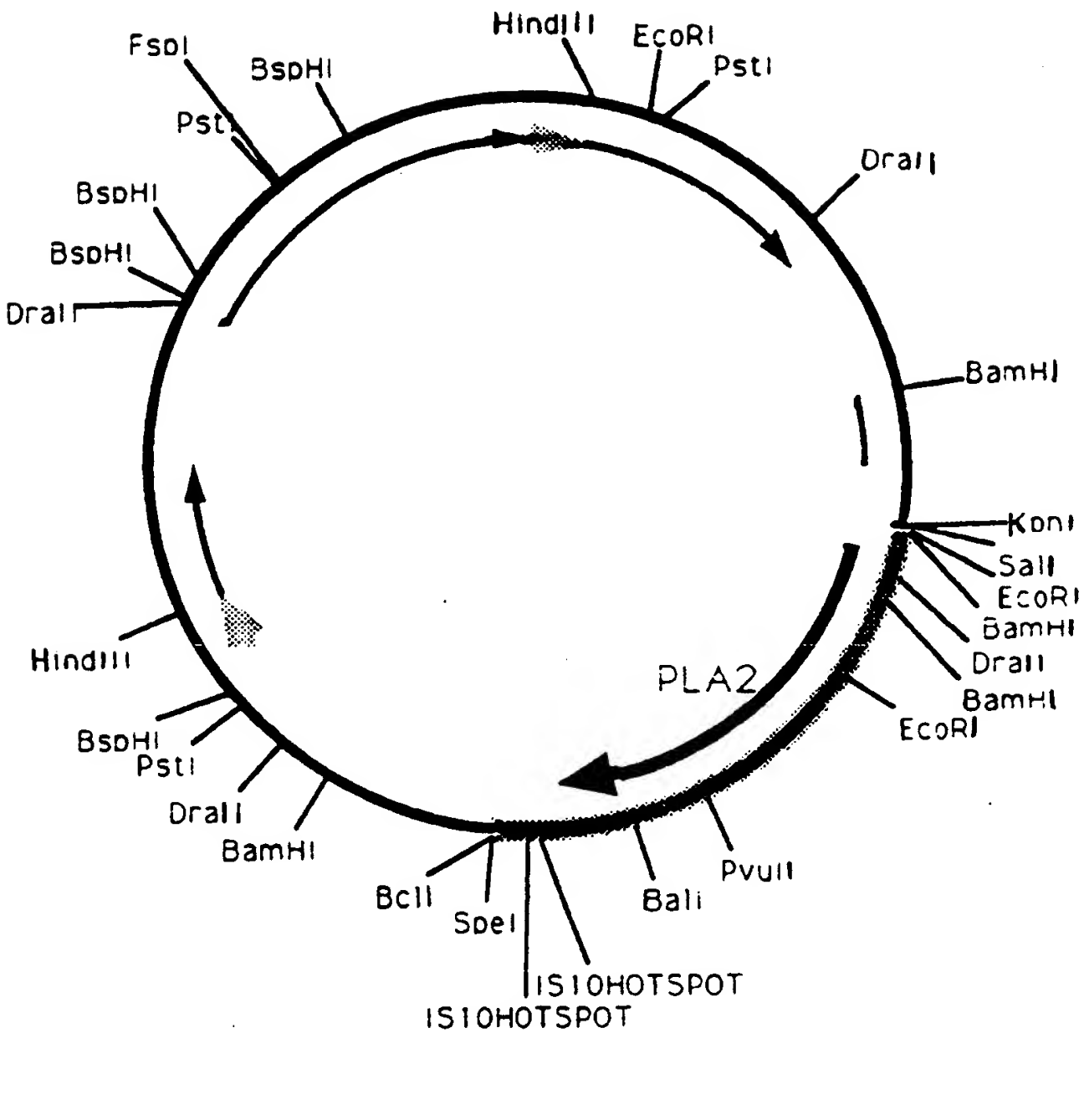
FIG. 2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EcoRI
BamHI
DraII
BamHI
EcoRI
PLA2
PvuII
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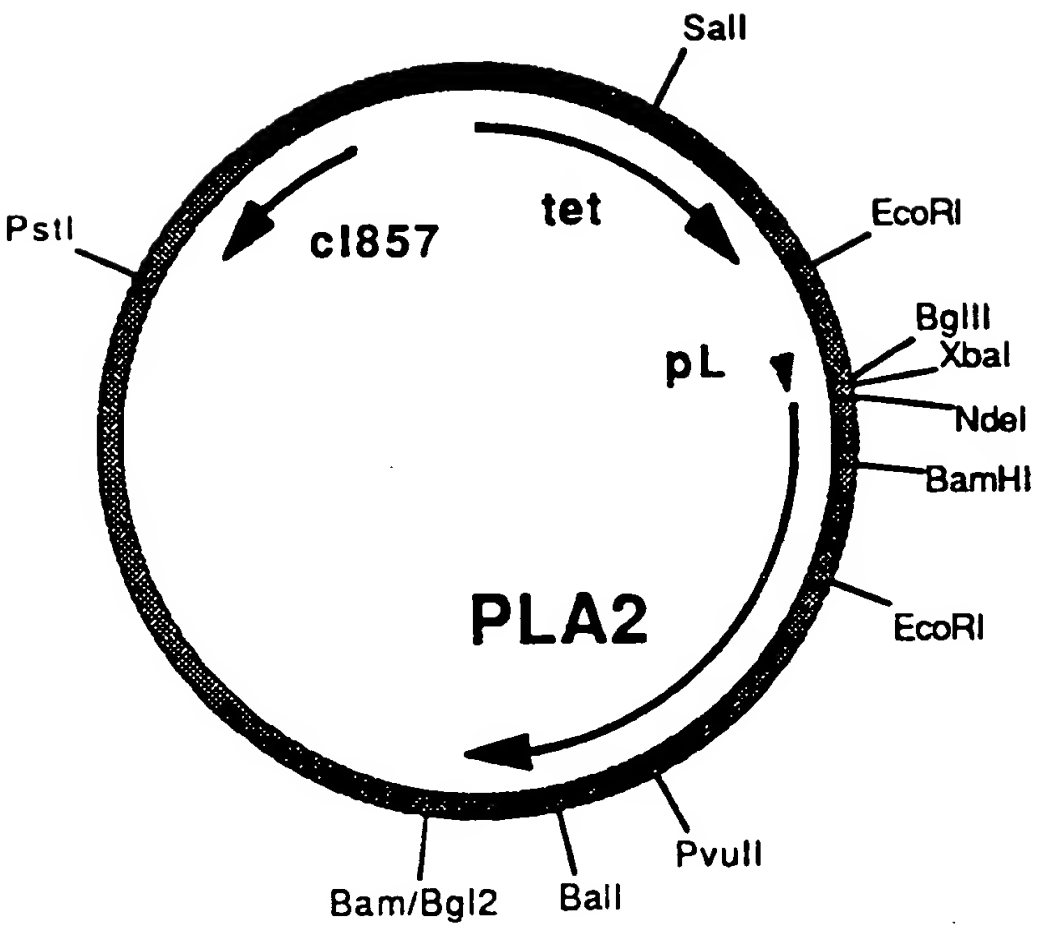
FIG. 3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tet
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Bam/Bgl2
BalI

FIG. 4

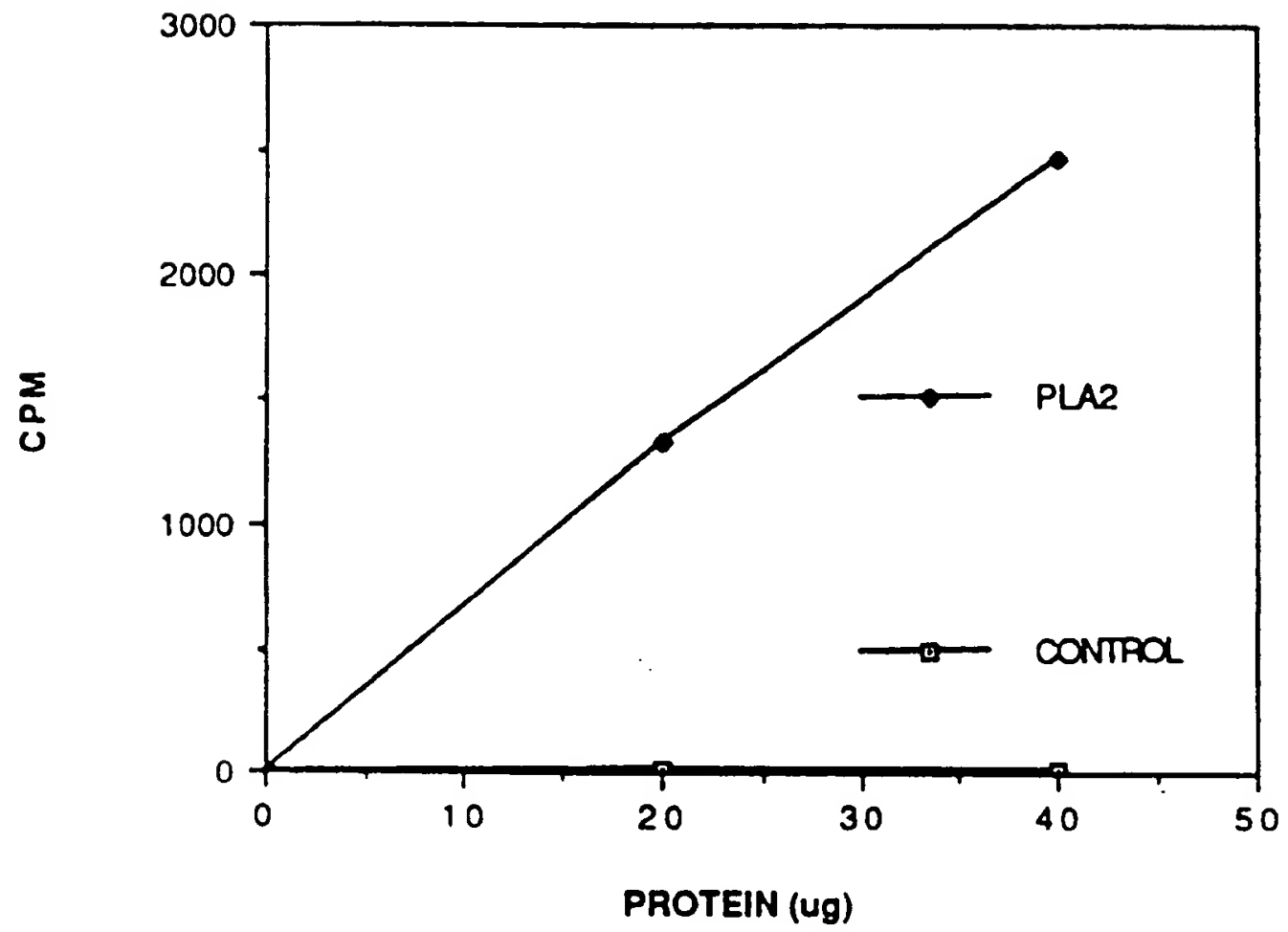


FIG. 5

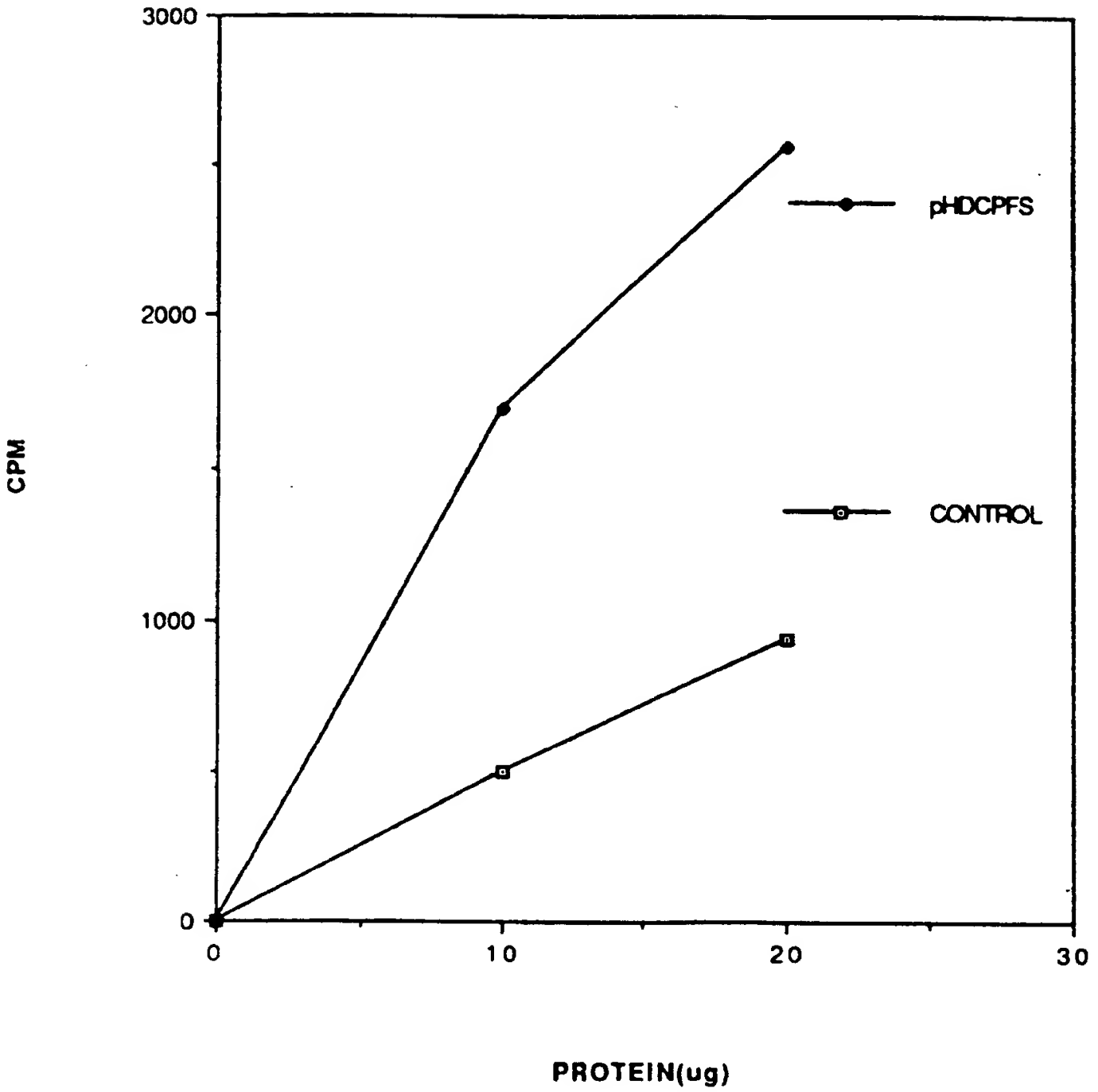
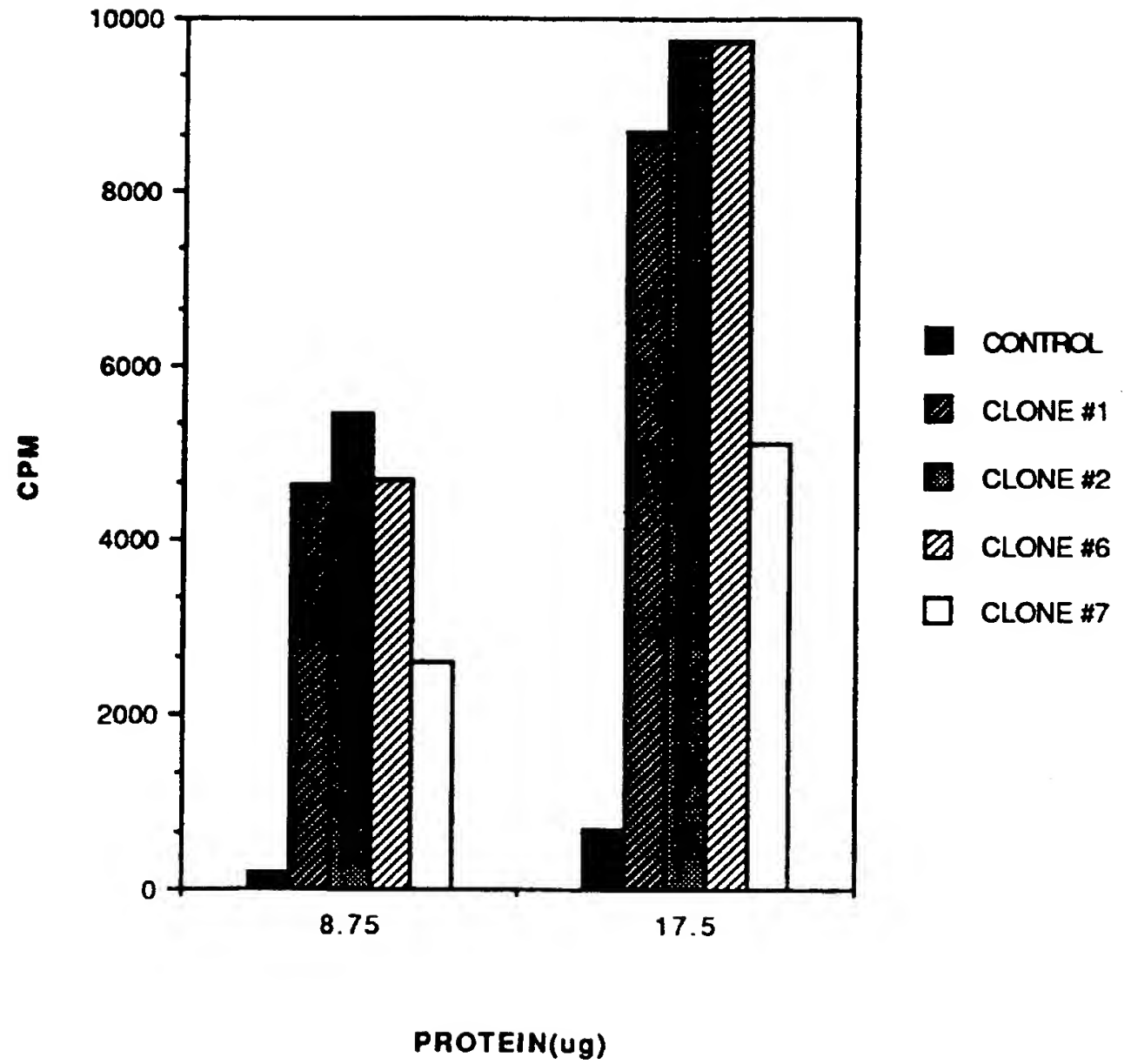


FIG. 6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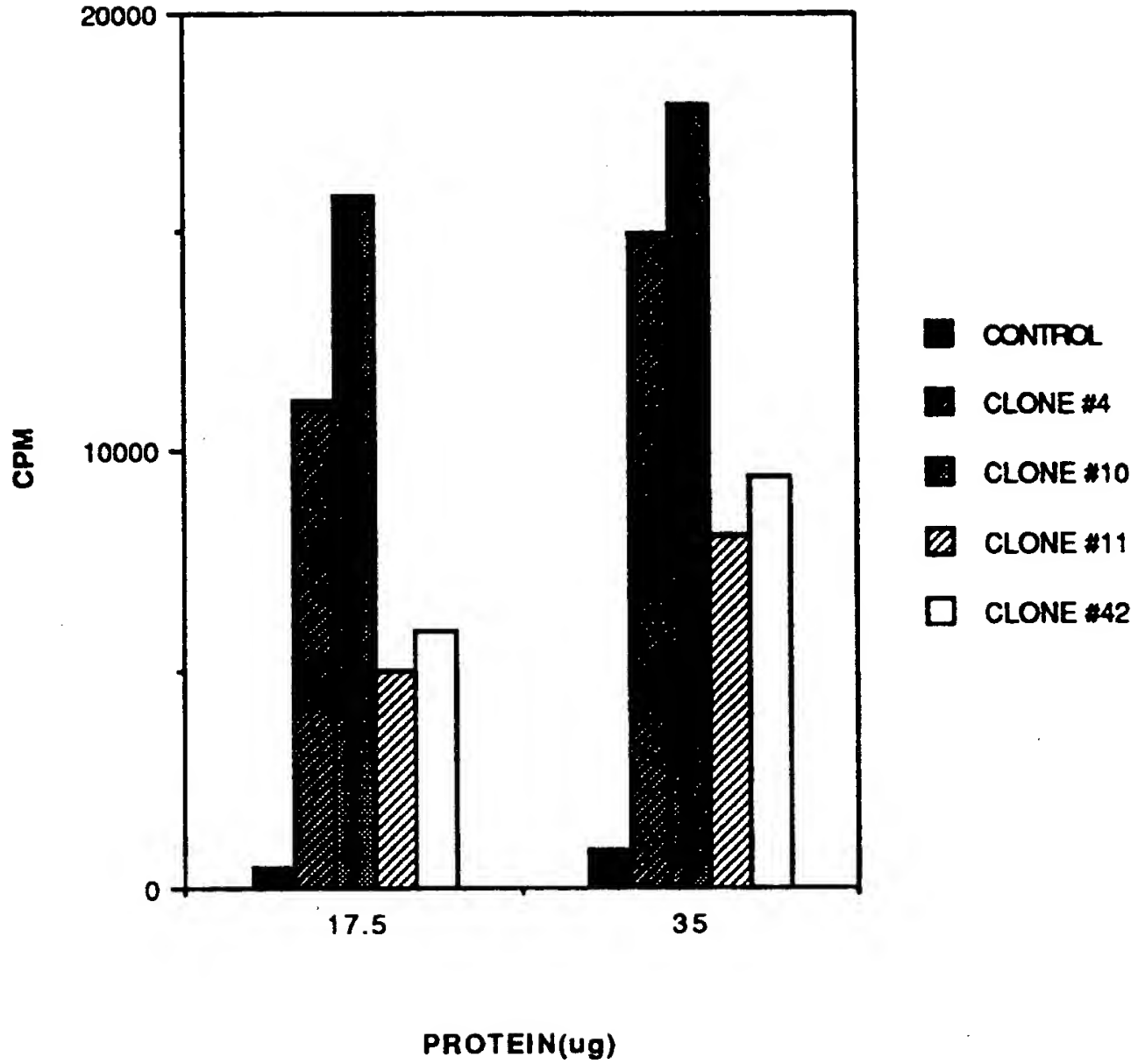
CONTROL
CLONE #1
CLONE #2
CLONE #6
CLONE #7

FIG. 7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CPM
17.5
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CONTROL
CLONE #4
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FIG. 8

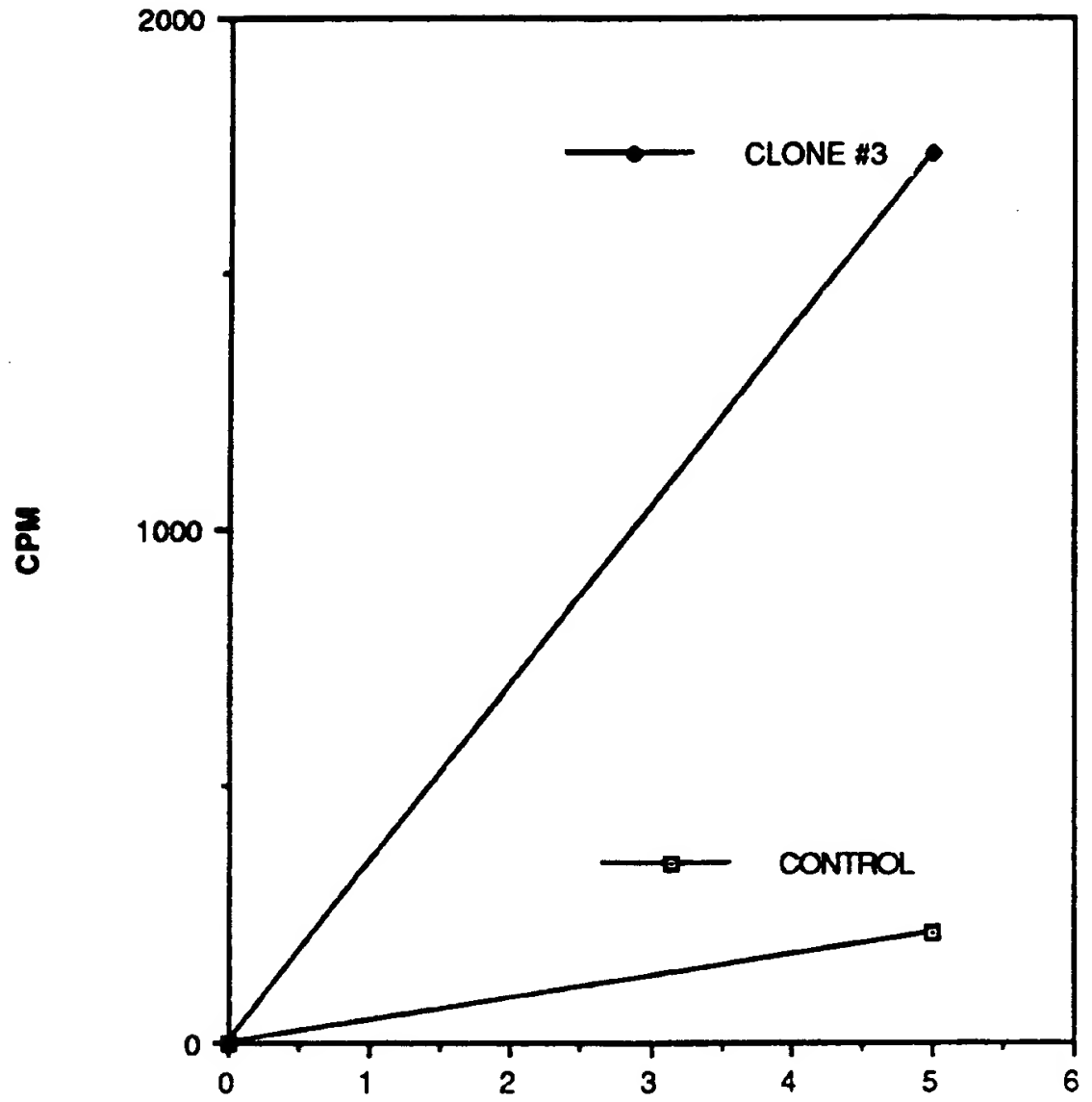

FIG. 9

European Patent Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 92 30 3209

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
P,X	JOURNAL OF BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY vol. 266, no. 23, 15 August 1991, BALTIMORE, US pages 14850 - 14853; J.D. SHARP ET AL.: 'Molecular cloning and expression of human calcium-sensitive cytosolic phospholipase A-2' * Whole article * ---	1-9	C12N15/55 C12N9/18 C12Q1/44
P,X	CELL vol. 65, no. 6, 14 June 1991, CAMBRIDGE, MASS., US pages 1043 - 1052; J.D. CLARK ET AL.: 'A novel arachidonic acid-selective cytosolic PLA-2 contains a calcium-dependent translocation domain with homology to PKC and GAP' * Whole article * ---	1-9	
Y	JOURNAL OF BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY vol. 265, no. 24, 25 August 1990, BALTIMORE, US pages 14654 - 14661; E. DIEZ ET AL.: 'Purification of a phospholipase A-2 from human monocytic leukemic U937 cells: calcium-dependent activation and membrane association' * Whole article * ---	1-9	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5) C12N
Y	WO-A-8 909 818 (BIOGEN, INC.) * Whole document * ---	1-9	
A	EP-A-0 359 425 (SHIONOGI SEIYAKU KABUSHIKI) * Whole document * --- -/--	1-9	

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
BERLIN	04 AUGUST 1992	JULIA P.

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

X : particularly relevant if taken alone
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category
A : technological background
O : non-written disclosure
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 92 30 3209

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
Y	PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF USA. vol. 87, no. 19, October 1990, WASHINGTON US pages 7708 - 7712; J.D. CLARK ET AL.: 'Purification of a 110-kilodalton cytosolic phospholipase A-2 from the human monocytic cell U937' * Whole article *	1-9	
Y	WO-A-8 901 773 (BIOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH PARTNERS, LTD. ET AL.) * Whole document *	1-9	
A	JOURNAL OF BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY vol. 266, no. 8, 15 March 1991, BALTIMORE, US pages 5268 - 5272; R.M. KRAMER ET AL.: 'The calcium-sensitive cytosolic phospholipase A2 is a 100-kDa protein in human monoblast U937 cells' * Whole article *	1,9	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)

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